

What is claimed is:

1. An iris identifying apparatus for identifying a target person to be picked up by extracting an image of an iris from a picked-up image of an eye of said target person, comprising:

5 a view window into which said target person looks; an infrared illumination having a peak wavelength in a range of infrared rays;

10 an image pickup device which has a sensitivity in said range of infrared rays and picks up said image of said eye of said target person through said view window;

15 a guide light which has a peak wavelength in a range of visible rays and guides a line of sight of said target person through said view window; and

20 optical-axis aligning means for aligning said line of sight of said target person viewing said guide light with a photographing optical axis of said image pickup device.

25 2. The iris identifying apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising image-pickup notification means for turning on said guide light and notifying said target person of said eye having entered an image pickup distance of said image pickup device.

3. The iris identifying apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said image-pickup notification means turns off said guide light when a focus value is 0 indicating a state where said image pickup device is not picking up said image, turns on said guide light when said focus value is equal to or

greater than a predetermined threshold value and flickers said guide light when said focus value is smaller than said threshold value, and said focus value of 100 indicates that said image pickup distance is an optimal image pickup
5 distance.

4. The iris identifying apparatus according to claim 1, wherein an optical axis of said infrared illumination crosses said photographing optical axis connecting said eye to said image pickup device, at an optimal image pickup distance.

10 5. The iris identifying apparatus according to claim 2, further comprising a guide frame, provided between said optical-axis aligning means and said guide light, for guiding said image of said iris within a predetermined range with respect to an image pickup field of said image pickup device.

15 6. The iris identifying apparatus according to claim 5, wherein said guide frame has a shape which is similar to that of said guide light and hides a part of said guide light when said image of said iris comes off said predetermined range of said image pickup field.

20 7. The iris identifying apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said optical-axis aligning means is a hot mirror for passing visible rays of said guide light to allow said visible rays to enter said eye of said target person, and reflecting infrared rays of said infrared illumination
25 reflected at said eye of said target person to allow said infrared rays to enter said image pickup device.

8. The iris identifying apparatus according to claim 1,

wherein said optical-axis aligning means is a cold mirror for passing infrared rays of said infrared illumination reflected at said eye of said target person to allow said infrared rays to enter said image pickup device located on a line extending 5 from said view window, and reflecting visible rays of said guide light to allow said visible rays to enter said eye of said target person.

9. The iris identifying apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a mirror for reflecting visible rays of 10 said guide light whereby said visible rays reflected at said mirror enter said eye of said target person via said optical-axis aligning means.

10. The iris identifying apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said iris identifying apparatus is a handheld type 15 iris identifying apparatus into whose view window said target person looks while holding said iris identifying apparatus by a hand.